

# CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

1430 N Street; Room 5111  
Sacramento, CA 95814



## TITLE 5. EDUCATION

### CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

#### **Withholding Funds – Special Education Mandates**

[Notice published May 21, 2004]

The State Board of Education (State Board) proposes to adopt the regulations described below after considering all comments, objections, or recommendations regarding the proposed action.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Program staff will hold a public hearing beginning at **8:00 a.m. on July 6, 2004**, at 1430 N Street, Room 2102, Sacramento. The room is wheelchair accessible. At the hearing, any person may present statements or arguments, orally or in writing, relevant to the proposed action described in the Informative Digest. The State Board requests that any person desiring to present statements or arguments orally notify the Regulations Adoption Coordinator of such intent. The Board requests, but does not require, that persons who make oral comments at the hearing also submit a summary of their statements. No oral statements will be accepted subsequent to this public hearing.

#### **WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD**

Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulatory action to the Regulations Adoption Coordinator. The written comment period ends at **5:00 p.m. on July 6, 2004**. The Board will consider only written comments received by the Regulations Adoption Coordinator or at the Board Office by that time (in addition to those comments received at the public hearing). Written comments for the State Board's consideration should be directed to:

Debra Strain, Regulations Adoption Coordinator  
California Department of Education  
LEGAL DIVISION  
1430 N Street, Room 5319  
Sacramento, California 95814  
Email: [dstrain@cde.ca.gov](mailto:dstrain@cde.ca.gov)  
Telephone: (916) 319-0860  
FAX: (916) 319-0155

#### **AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE**

Authority: Section 33031, Education Code.

Reference: Section 56845, Education Code; 20 USC Section 1413; 34 CFR 300.197.

## **INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW**

The Special Education Division on behalf of the Superintendent of Public Instruction proposes that the Board adopt regulation Sections 3088.1 and 3088.2 regarding sanctions for withholding funds to enforce special education compliance authorized by *Education Code* Section 33031. (Reference: 20 USC Section 1413, 34 CFR 300.197 and *Education Code* Section 56845 (a) and (b)).

The purpose for adding Sections 3088.1 and 3088.2 to Title 5, California Code of Regulations, is to establish specific timelines and notice requirements for conducting a hearing which are prerequisites in both Federal and State law prior to withholding funds from local education agencies for noncompliance with special education law.

20 USC Section 1413 requires, among other things, that state education agencies monitor local education agencies to assure compliance with special education laws. 34 CFR 300.197 and *Education Code* Section 56845 (a) and (b) authorize the Superintendent to withhold state and federal funds from a local education agency after reasonable notice and opportunity for a hearing if the superintendent finds the agency out of compliance with special education laws.

Section 3088.1 specifies the required contents of a hearing notice and the timelines for conducting the hearing prior to making a decision whether to withhold funds. Section 3088.2 specifies when funds shall be withheld if the hearing officer concludes that the local education agency has not presented sufficient proof of compliance or mitigating circumstances precluding compliance. This section also stipulates that the superintendent may apportion state and federal funds previously withheld from the local education agency when it is determined that substantial progress toward compliance with special education laws has been made.

## **DISCLOSURES REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACTION**

Mandate on local agencies and school districts: None

Cost or savings to any state agency: None

Costs to any local agency or school district which must be reimbursed in accordance with Government Code Section 17561: None

Other non-discretionary cost or savings imposed on local educational agencies: None

Cost or savings in federal funding to the state: None

Significant, statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states: None.

Cost impacts on a representative private person or businesses: The State Board is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Adoption of these regulations will not:

- (1) create or eliminate jobs within California;
- (2) create new businesses or eliminate existing businesses within California; or

(3) affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within California.

Significant effect on housing costs: None.

Effect on small businesses: There is no effect on small businesses because any funds withheld for non-compliance with special education laws are primarily spent on services and not specific equipment, materials and supplies.

### **CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES**

In accordance with Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(13), the State Board must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the State Board, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action.

The State Board invites interested persons to present statements or arguments with respect to alternatives to the proposed regulations at the scheduled hearing or during the written comment period.

### **CONTACT PERSONS**

Inquiries concerning the substance of the proposed regulations should be directed to:

Dennis Kelleher, Ed.D., Staff Liaison Consultant  
California State Advisory Commission on Special Education  
California Department of Education  
1430 N Street, Room 2401  
E-mail: [dkellehe@cde.ca.gov](mailto:dkellehe@cde.ca.gov)  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Telephone: (916) 327-0842

Requests for a copy of the proposed text of the regulations, the Initial Statement of Reasons, the modified text of the regulations, if any, or other technical information upon which the rulemaking is based or questions on the proposed administrative action may be directed to the Regulations Adoption Coordinator, or to the backup contact person, Najia Rosales, at (916) 319-0860.

### **AVAILABILITY OF INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS**

The Regulations Adoption Coordinator will have the entire rulemaking file available for inspection and copying throughout the rulemaking process at her office at the above address. As of the date this notice is published in the Notice Register, the rulemaking file consists of this notice, the proposed text of the regulations, and the initial statement of reasons. A copy may be obtained by contacting the Regulations Adoption Coordinator at the above address.

### **AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT**

Following the public hearing and considering all timely and relevant comments received, the State Board may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If the State Board makes modifications that are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, the modified

text (with changes clearly indicated) will be available to the public for at least 15 days before the State Board adopts the regulations as revised. Requests for copies of any modified regulations should be sent to the attention of the Regulations Adoption Coordinator at the address indicated above. The State Board will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 days after the date on which they are made available.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**

Upon its completion, a copy of the Final Statement of Reasons may be obtained by contacting the Regulations Adoption Coordinator at the above address.

#### **AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET**

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, the Initial Statement of Reasons, the text of the regulations in underline and strikeout, and the Final Statement of Reasons, can be accessed through the California Department of Education's Web site at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lr/rr/>.

#### **REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY**

Pursuant to the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973* and the *Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990*, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in a meeting or function of the California State Board of Education (SBE), may request assistance by contacting Stacy Michel, Special Education Office, 1430 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; telephone, (916) 445-4613; fax, (916) 327-3516.